

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 03150 131857Z

63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01 DRC-01

/115 W

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R 131756Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1024

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3150

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, EC

SUBJ: CEOSL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSTPONES CONGRESS

REF: QUITO 2925

1. CEOSL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN MEETING GUAYAQUIL MAY 11 DECIDED POSTPONE CONGRESS SCHEDULED MAY 24-25 UNTIL AUGUST 9-11. OPPOSED TO POSTPONEMENT WERE SUPPORTERS OF RECENTLY OUSTED GUAYAS FEDERATION PRESIDENT JULIO CHANG AND PICHINCHA FEDERATION LEADER JOSE CHAVEZ.

2. PURPORTED REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT WAS LACK OF MONEY, BUT MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE CEOSL SECRETARY GENERAL LUIS VILLACRES FEARED HE WOULD LOSE ELECTION TO HIS OPPONENT CHAVEZ WHO HAS MOUNTED STRONG CAMPAIGN FOR SECRETARY GENERALSHIP WITH SUPPORT FROM CHANG AND OTHERS.

3. COMMENT: VILLACRES MAY HAVE PUT OFF DAY OF RECKONING, BUT AT COST OF CONTINUING DIVISION OF CEOSL. SPLIT IN GUAYAS FEDERATION (SEE REFTEL) PROVOKED BY OUSTER OF CHANG (WHICH DECLARED ILLEGAL BY REPRESENTATIVES OF 42 GUAYAS UNIONS MAY 11) WILL HARDEN AND CHAVEZ WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY
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PAGE 02 QUITO 03150 131857Z

CONSOLIDATE SUPPORT FOR HIS CANDIDACY FOR SECRETARY GENERAL

OF EOSL. DECISION IN EFFECT LENGTHENS CAMPAIGN PERIOD
AND OFFERS MORE TIME FOR EXACERBATION OF EXISTING
DIVISIONS. COMMUNIST AND CHRISTIAN UNIONS
WILL NO DOUBT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY OPPORTUNITY OFFERED
THEM TO GAIN STRENGTH AT CEOSL EXPENSE.
BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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